



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
KAZUHITO TAKANASHI ET AL.	)	Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Application No.: 10/754,531	)	Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
Filed: January 12, 2004	)	
For: ETCHING METHOD	)	February 17, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Since the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 after June 30, 2003, no copies of such documents are enclosed. Copies of the other listed documents are enclosed.

The concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents may be found, inter alia, in the specification where they are cited and/or in the English language abstracts attached thereto. In addition, the concise explanation of relevance for JP 6-342784 may be found in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,767,020; 6,171,512 B1; 6,238,586 B1; and 6,254,794 B1,

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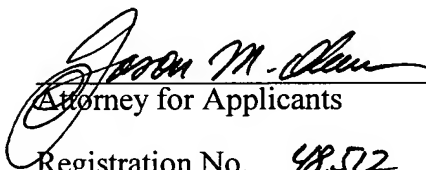
which are all in the same patent family. The concise explanation of relevance for JP 11-204494 may also be found in U.S. Patent No. 6,127,281, which is in the same patent family. The concise explanation of relevance for JP 11-204495 may also be found in U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0044216 A1 and in U.S. Patent No. 6,380,099 B2, which are all in the same patent family.

#### CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

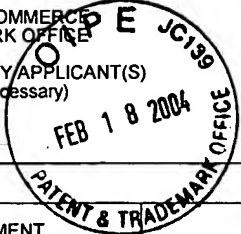
Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney for Applicants  
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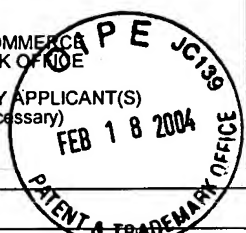
FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>00862.023399</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/754,531</b>	
				APPLICANT <b>Kazuhito Takanashi et al.</b>			
				FILING DATE <b>January 12, 2004</b>		GROUP <b>N.Y.A.</b>	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		2001/0044216 A1	11/22/01	Sakaguchi et al.	438	747	
		6,380,099 B2	04/30/02	Sakaguchi et al.	438	747	
		6,127,281	10/03/00	Sakaguchi et al.	438	747	
		6,254,794 B1	07/03/01	Sakaguchi et al.	216	56	
		5,767,020	06/16/98	Sakaguchi et al.	438	705	
		6,171,512	01/09/01	Sakaguchi et al.	216	56	
		6,238,586 B1	05/29/01	Sakaguchi et al.	216	56	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
	JP	2000-133558	05/12/00	Japan			Abstract
	JP	11-204495	07/30/99	Japan			Abstract
	JP	11-204494	07/30/99	Japan			Abstract
	JP	6-342784	12/13/94	Japan			Abstract
	JP	2000-150837	05/30/00	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT	
	JP	2000-133632	05/12/00	Japan		Abstract	
	JP	2000-150495	05/30/00	Japan		Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

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